

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



**April 23 - 29, 2017**

### Sunday, April 23

**Sorry, no programs today.** Why not try a hike on the Window Trail? The route offers spectacular views and opportunities for viewing wildlife of the Chisos Mountains. Ask a park ranger for more details.

### Monday, April 24

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Conserving the Greater Big Bend Ecosystem”** Nearly seventy-five years after its establishment as the first national park in Texas, Big Bend is now one of eight contiguous parks and preserves comprising over three million acres of protected land. Join Ranger B. Frohbieter for a brief introduction to the Greater Big Bend Ecosystem. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

### Tuesday, April 25

**Sorry, no programs today.** Why not try an early morning walk on the Rio Grande Village Nature Trail? This easy walk offers opportunities for viewing wildlife and seeing plants typical of the Chihuahuan desert and the Rio Grande floodplain. Ask a park ranger for more details.

### Wednesday, April 26

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.

**9:30 PM Evening Program – “Star-gazing with Binoculars and the Naked Eye”** You don’t need a telescope to locate and enjoy many of the natural wonders in the night skies over Big Bend National Park. Join Volunteer R. Wonite for a laser-guided tour of the more prominent stars, star clusters, and nebulae in the night sky [weather permitting]. Meet at the pullout at Mile 15.3 on the road to Rio Grande Village. Wheelchair accessible. Bring binoculars and/or a chair if you have them. 1 hour.

### Thursday, April 27

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Islands in the Sky”** It is hard to stand in the Chisos Basin and not have a heightened sense of one’s surroundings. The forested environment supports a variety of plants and animals not found elsewhere in the park. Join Ranger B. Frohbieter for a discussion of the “sky island” ecology of the Chisos Mountains. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Wheelchair accessible. 1/3 mile. 45 minutes.

**8:30 PM Evening Program – “Cat of Many Names”** People and mountain lions share common ground in Big Bend National Park. Is there enough room for both species to peacefully coexist? Join Ranger R. Hamilton for an intimate look at the infamous Big Bend mountain lions. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

### Friday, April 28

**9:00 AM Guided Walk – “Birds of the Big Bend”** It’s always a great day to go bird watching. Grab your field guide and binoculars and join Ranger D. Sewing to look for some of Big Bend’s resident and migrant species and watch their antics. Meet in the Rio Grande Village Store parking lot. Bring water and sun protection. 1 mile. 1.5 hours.

### Saturday, April 29

**Sorry, no programs today.** Enjoy the breath-taking beauty of Big Bend National Park in cool air conditioned comfort with our 22-minute Park Orientation film. Available daily on request at the Panther Junction Visitor Center.

### **Not able to attend a program?**

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